

Atty. Dkt. ID# 1539
4000-01900

Patent

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's time and efforts in discussing the case by telephonic interview. In response to those discussions, Applicant is submitting this Preliminary Amendment in an effort to clarify and focus the claims. Applicant particularly notes that the amendments to independent claim 5 (other than the addition of elements of claim 6) and the amendments of the amended elements of claim 5 added to newly independent claim 7, were focused on adding clarity to address concerns of the Examiner under 35 USC 101, rather than specifically working to address any prior art or patentability questions under 35 USC 102 or 35 USC 103.

Similarly, while Applicant respectfully submits that it was inherent that the methods claimed were implemented on a computer, to clarify this point the independent claims have been amended to expressly call out that what is claimed is a computer-implemented method. Applicant has also pulled from the specification the full names underlying the acronyms IIOP and OTS and amended the independent claims containing either of those acronyms to place the full name at their first mention to expressly provide the basis for the acronyms.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application as amended is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or comments or otherwise feels it would be helpful in expediting the application, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (972) 731-2288.

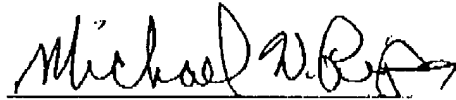
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any further fees associated with any of the foregoing papers submitted herewith, or to credit any overpayment thereof, to Deposit Account No. 21-0765, Sprint.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/11/2004



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